

receptacle for them by pulling the sticks and twigs away, and leaving a foundation of soft, paper-like bark." The date on which the eggs were taken was the 16th September, 1895. Mr. Jackson informs me he has since found other sets of Coucals' eggs similarly situated.

I have hunted the pheasant-like Coucal in Queensland, where they are sometimes erroneously called Grass-Owls. I have also heard them called Swamp-Pheasants. The eggs, however, in my collection were taken by Mr. W. T. Bailey, in Southern Queensland, on 19th February, 1891.

The breeding months would appear to be from September to February.

SOME PLANTS FOUND GROWING AT MOUTH OF RIVER YARRA AND AT WERRIBEE.

BY ALEX. MORRISON, M.D.

THE following lists of plants comprise the more interesting species found by me during a number of years' collecting at the mouth of the River Yarra and at Werribee. Many of them are not to be found to the east of Melbourne, and some of them, so far as my own observations have gone, only in the one spot. The lists may, therefore, be of interest to other collectors, who will possibly be able to add further species which I was unable to determine with certainty. It is possible that some of the plants found growing at the Werribee may have been introduced by means of sheep brought from the north-western portion of the colony, but positive evidence on that point is desirable.

Mouth of the River Yarra:—*Frankenia lævis*, *L.*, *Alternanthera triandra*, *Lam.*, *Sagina apetala*, *L.*, *Atriplex Muelleri*, *Benth.*, *Enchylæna tomentosa*, *R. Br.*, *Salicornia arbuscula*, *R. Br.*, *Muehlenbeckia Cunninghamsii*, *F. v. M.*, *Eutaxia empetrifolia*, *Schlecht.*, *Tillæa purpurata*, *J. D. H.*, *Hydrocotyle hirta*, *R. Br.*, *H. tripartita*, *R. Br.*, *H. callicarpa*, *Bunge*, *Pimelea glauca*, *R. Br.*, *Calotis scapigera*, *J. D. H.*, *Angianthus Preissianus*, *Benth.*, *Cotula filifolia*, *Thunb.*, *C. reptans*, *Benth.*, *Lobelia platycalyx*, *F. v. M.*, *Sebaea albidiflora*, *F. v. M.*, *Samolus repens*, *Pers.*, *Convolvulus sepium*, *L.*, *Wilsonia humilis*, *R. Br.*, *W. rotundifolia*, *J. D. Hook.*, *W. Backhousii*, *J. D. H.*, *Mimulus repens*, *R. Br.*, *Myoporum deserti*, *A. Cunn.*, *M. humile*, *R. Br.*, *Ruppia maritima*, *L.*, *Centrolepis polygyna*, *Hieron.*, *Azolla filiculoides*, *Lam.*

Werribee:—*Zygophyllum Billardieri*, *D. C.*, *Pelargonium Rodneyanum*, *Mitch.*, *Lavatera plebija*, *Sims.*, *Plagianthus*

pulchellus, *A. Gr.*, Euphorbia Drummondii, *Boiss.*, Stackhousia viminea, *Sm.*, Alternanthera triandra, *Lam.*, Ptilotus macrocephalus, *Poir.*, P. spathulatus, *Poir.*, Lotus Australis, *Andr.*, Swainsonia lessertiifolia, *D. C.*, Glycine Latrobeana, *Benth.*, or G. tabacina, *Benth.* (?), Tillaea purpurata, *J. D. H.*, Lythrum salicaria, *L.*, Myriophyllum verrucosum, *Lindl.*, Hydrocotyle hirta, *R. Br.*, Grevillea rosmarinifolia, *A. Cunn.*, Sambucus Gaudichaudiana, *D. C.*, Brachycome exilis, *Sond.*, B. calocarpa, *F. v. M.* (?), Calotis anthemoides, *F. v. M.* (?), Stuartina Muelleri, *Sond.*, Podolepis acuminata, *R. Br.*, Rutidosia Pumilo, *Benth.*, Craspedia chrysantha, *Benth.*, Goodenia pinnatifida, *Schlicht.*, Vилeya paradoxa, *R. Br.*, Solanum aviculare, *J. Forst.*, Vallisneria spiralis, *L.*, Potamogeton natans, *L.*, P. obtusifolius, *Mert. and Koch.*, Heleocharis sphacelata, *R. Br.*, Ophioglossum vulgatum, *Bauhin.*

BIRDS AND EDIBLE FUNGI.—In the August number of the *Victorian Naturalist* a reference was made to the Southern Stone Plover, *Burhinus (Edicnemus) grallarius*, *Lath.*, by Mr. D. M'Alpine, who put forth the query, "Does the Curlew eat fungi?" I am sufficiently well acquainted with my informants of the following positive information to believe it quite correct. Messrs. Duncan and M'Kenzie are trappers and mushroom collectors, who formerly resided at Point Cook, near Williamstown, and they say that the Sea Curlew, *Numenius cyanopus*, *Vieil.*, never forages on land for fungi, or for other food, but that the larger Stone Plover does. The Plover shows a partiality for the common mushroom, making direct for a group, and turning them all over. By catching hold of the stalk and giving a twist the fungus is reversed, when the gills are eaten. The pileus is only partly destroyed by the bird's bill passing through it. Whether the fungus is thus partly eaten for its own sake, or for the insects usually contained therein, my informants are unable to say. On one occasion, seeing a number of mushrooms under a tree and plovers near by, the trappers retreated, when the birds approached and attacked the fungi, thus proving them the enemy for which the mushroom-gatherers had long sought.—R. HALL. [In the abbreviation of this note in last month's *Naturalist* (page 63), the wrong bird was unfortunately named as causing damage to mushrooms.—ED. *Victorian Naturalist.*]